

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 707

By DuBois

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Coach Phillip Fulmer and the University of Tennessee football team on winning the SEC East Division Championship and the 2008 Outback Bowl.

WHEREAS, the Tennessee General Assembly is proud to salute the accomplishments of our great athletic teams, those that work hard, make the necessary sacrifices, and achieve success; and

WHEREAS, the outstanding 2007 University of Tennessee football team, which won the SEC Eastern Division and the 2008 Outback Bowl in Tampa, Florida, is clearly one such team; and

WHEREAS, the Volunteers posted an impressive record of ten wins against only four losses, gaining their tenth win with a thrilling 21-17 victory over the Wisconsin Badgers in the Outback Bowl on January 1, 2008; and

WHEREAS, having just completed their 111th football season, the UT Vols now boast an all-time record of 770 wins, 321 losses, and fifty-three ties that includes forty-seven bowl invitations; and

WHEREAS, the only SEC team to finish undefeated at home this season, the UT Vols are led by Head Coach Phillip Fulmer and have compiled an impressive 147-45 record during his tenure; and

WHEREAS, on the gridiron this year, the Volunteers have excelled on both sides of the ball as they rank in the top three of the SEC in six statistical categories, including first in red zone offense, and led the nation with an offensive line that allowed only four sacks on the season; and

WHEREAS, winning eight of their last nine regular season games, the Volunteers posted victories over Southern Miss, Arkansas State, Georgia, Mississippi State, Louisiana-Lafayette, Arkansas, Vanderbilt, Kentucky; and

WHEREAS, the victory was especially sweet for longtime Vols Head Coach Phillip Fulmer, who expertly molded the natural talent of the team into championship caliber, thus adding another glorious chapter to the Volunteers' storied history of gridiron excellence and prominence; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that we pause in our deliberations to honor the Tennessee Volunteers and Coach Phillip Fulmer on a great season, one that has reflected tremendous credit on the team and the school; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Coach Phillip Fulmer and the 2007 University of Tennessee football team on winning the SEC East Championship and on their triumphant victory in the 2008 Outback Bowl.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.